

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph 0001 on page 2 entitled "Application Priority" as indicated below:

[0001] This patent document is a Continuation-in-Part of Application ~~also claims priority to~~ Non-provisional Patent Application, Serial No. **10/029,444**, filed December 21, 2001, entitled "NEAR POINT OF USE LASER WATER TREATMENT," which further claims priority to a Provisional Patent Application, Serial No. 60/257,430, filed December 22, 2000, entitled "NEAR POINT OF USE LASER WATER TREATMENT." This patent document is also a Continuation-in-Part of ~~also claims priority to~~ Non-provisional Patent Application, Serial No. **10/389,355**, filed March 13, 2002, entitled "LASER WATER DETECTION, TREATMENT AND NOTIFICATION SYSTEMS AND METHODS," which further claims priority to a Provisional Patent Application, Serial No. 60/364,509, filed March 14, 2002, entitled "LASER WATER DETECTION, TREATMENT AND NOTIFICATION SYSTEMS AND METHODS."

Please amend the Specification on page 15, Paragraph 44, as indicated below:

[0044] The portion of the UV light spectrum known to affect living organisms ranges in wavelengths from 190nm to 400nm and is divided into 3 bands: UVA, UVB, and UVC. The UVC light band of from ~~100nm to 280nm~~ usually about 200nm to 290nm is often referred to as the germicidal band. UVA and UVB light bands are not useful for water sterilization. Many factors, however, affect the overall effectiveness of UV sterilization: the size of the organism may affect the effectiveness of ultraviolet sterilization (the larger the organism the greater the dosage of UVC light required); UV power (the lamp wattage required for sterilization is related to flow rate of water through the UV sterilizer); contact time (determined by the flow rate of the water through the UV sterilizer, very critical); temperature; and the use of quartz sleeves with UV lamps (the amount of UVC output of the UV lamp dependent on the temperature at which it operates).

Please amend the Specification on page 17, Paragraph 50, as indicated below:

[0050] Another proposed treatment area design is provided in a serpentine configuration. As seen in Figure 3, fluid entering the treatment area 20 from the tubing 60 at coupling 64 is carried through the treatment area 20 in a serpentine flow pattern because of various partitions 70 built into the treatment area 20. Although four compartments are shown in the illustration, it should be appreciated that more or less compartment can be provided for fluid flow and light exposure. Furthermore, it should be appreciated that internal surfaces can be rounded, smooth and/or polished in order to promote ease of fluid flow and maximum light exposure, yet reducing flow restriction. Lasers 10, or fibers, can be coupled to the housing at throughout the various compartments formed by the partitions

[70]. The serpentine configuration increases exposure because of the increased number of light sources 10 coupled to the housing and also because of the added length and volume created by the compartments. Exposure time of microorganisms to radiation is generally increased because the serpentine flow pattern creates length to the flow of fluid.